

IN THE CLAIMS

1. - 35. (Previously Canceled).

36. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising: packet equipment configured to be responsive to a hand-off notification associated with an existing wireless data call associated with a point-to-point protocol connection by transmitting a message signal to a packet server, the message signal including a communication path set-up request and a continued call request for establishing, in accordance with a tunneling protocol, a communication path with the packet server for the existing wireless data call.

37. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 36, wherein the packet equipment is a network access server.

38. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 36, wherein the packet equipment is configured for receiving another message signal from the packet server, the other message signal being responsive to the communication path set-up request and the continued call request.

39. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 38, wherein the packet equipment is configured for transmitting a second message signal to the packet server, the second message signal being responsive to the message signal received from the packet server.

40. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising: packet equipment configured to permit an existing wireless point-to-point protocol connection with a first packet server to be transferred to a second packet server, the packet equipment initiating the transfer in response to a hand-off notification associated with the existing point-to-point protocol connection, the packet equipment being further configured for establishing a tunnel to the second packet server to convey packets from a source which previously conveyed packets over a tunnel established between the first packet server and the packet equipment.

41. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 40, wherein the packet equipment is configured to be responsive to signaling received from the second packet server.

42. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 41, wherein the packet equipment is configured for transmitting signaling responsive to the signaling received from the second packet server.

43. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 40, wherein the packets are encapsulated in another packet.

44. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 40, wherein the packet equipment is configured for transmitting a message signal to the second packet server, the message signal including a communication path set-up request and a continued call request for establishing a communication path with the second packet server for the existing point-to-point protocol connection.

45. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising: packet equipment associated with a first radius server and configured to be responsive to a hand-off notification associated with an existing wireless data call of a point-to-point protocol connection by transmitting a message signal to packet equipment associated with a second radius server, the message signal including a continued call request for establishing, in accordance with a tunneling protocol, a communication path between a first packet server operatively coupled to the first radius server and a second packet server operatively coupled to the second radius server.

46. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 45, wherein the packet equipment associated with the first radius server is configured for receiving a message signal from the packet equipment associated with the second radius server, the message signal being responsive to the continued call request.

47. (Previously Added) The apparatus of Claim 46, wherein the packet equipment associated with the first radius server is configured for transmitting a second message signal to the packet equipment associated with the second radius server, the second message signal being responsive to the message signal received from the packet equipment associated with the second radius server.

48. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for transferring packet data comprising: a packet server configured for maintaining a wireless point-to-point protocol connection established with a first packet server, transmitting a message signal which includes a continued connection request to a second packet server in response to receipt of a hand-off notification, transmitting a message signal to the first packet server which includes notification that the point-to-point protocol connection between the packet server and the first packet server is to be disconnected, and transferring the point-to-point protocol connection to the second packet server, wherein point-to-point protocol connections between the servers are established according to a tunneling protocol.

49. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for transferring packet data comprising: a packet server configured for maintaining a wireless point-to-point protocol connection established with a first packet server, receiving a message signal which includes a connection set-up request and a continued connection request from a second packet server in response to receipt of a hand-off notification, transmitting a message signal to the first packet server which includes notification that the point-to-point protocol connection between the packet server and the first packet server is to be disconnected, and transferring the point-to-point protocol connection to the second packet server, wherein point-to-point protocol connections between the servers are established according to a tunneling protocol.

50. (Currently Amended) A method for use in a packet server comprising the steps of:
receiving a hand-off notification for a wireless call associated with a point-to-point protocol connection to a first packet server;
transmitting a message signal to a second packet server including a communication path set-up request and a continued call request for establishing, in accordance with a tunneling protocol, a communication path with the second packet server; and
completing the hand-off for the wireless call by subsequently transmitting packets to the second packet server such that the wireless call is not dropped.

51. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 50, further comprising the step of receiving another message signal from the second packet server, the other message signal being responsive to the communication path set-up request and the continued call request.

52. (Previously Added) The method of Claim 51, further comprising the step of transmitting a second message signal to the second packet server, the second message signal being responsive to the message signal received from the second packet server.

53. (Currently Amended) A method for use in a packet server comprising the steps of:
establishing a wireless call associated with a point-to-point protocol connection to a first packet server for communicating packets with the first packet server;
transmitting a continued call request signal, in response to a hand-off notification signal associated with the call, to a second packet server;
transferring the call to the second packet server such that packets are now communicated with the second packet server;
wherein communication between servers is established according to a tunneling protocol.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 53, further comprising the step of receiving a message signal from the second packet server, the message signal being responsive to the continued call request signal.

55. (Previously Added) The method of Claim 54, further comprising the step of transmitting a second signal to the second packet server, the second signal being responsive to the message signal received from the second packet server.

56. (Currently Amended) A method for use in a packet server comprising the steps of:
receiving a hand-off notification for a wireless call associated with a point-to-point protocol connection to a first packet server;
directing a radius server, operatively coupled to the packet server, to transmit a message signal to another radius server, operatively coupled to a second packet server, the message signal including a continued call request for establishing a communication path, in accordance with a tunneling protocol, with the second packet server; and
completing the hand-off for the wireless call by subsequently transmitting packets to the second packet server such that the wireless call is not dropped.--